

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET HEARING
SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2017
10:00A.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Councilmember President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 10:21a.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Eugene Grant, Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell, Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Absent:

Councilmember Aretha Stephenson

Staff: Robert Ashton, Acting City Treasurer, Orson Carter, Assistant City Treasurer, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

2. Meeting Topics

2.1.1. FY2018 Proposed Budget Hearing

- City Council held the Budget Hearing Meeting in accordance to the City Charter and four residents were present.
- Council President Yeargin stated that the hearing is to allow the citizens to add in-put on the budget.
- Councilmember McCarthy stated that the City Council, Mayor and Executive Staff had met for a Strategic Plan and had agreed upon seven strategic priorities for the City. She encouraged the residents to review the budget either on-line or through the hard copy of the booklet prepared for this meeting.
- Mayor Grant stated that the City had operated from a line item budget for years. The newly formatted budget of Budgeting for Outcomes provides the residents the details of what they are getting.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- Elenora Simms-5927 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD- Ms. Simms inquired if the city council is prepared to go into the budget. She sees a lot increase for salaries, new staff members and spending. She would like to know where are the dollars coming from. She wanted to know if the City Council understood the previous budget and the proposed budget. She stated that there are a lot people sitting around the table that do not have a vested interested in the city.
- Hope Love-609 63rd Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD-Ms. Love wanted to know if money had been allotted to the school.
- Eric King-7226 Hylton St., Seat Pleasant, MD- Mr. King stated that the meeting is about listening to the citizens and you should be listening to the citizens. His parents owned the property and lived in the city for 50 years. He has questioned why is keeping the house. He wants to see change, but question why would a business want to come into the city. He doesn't feel from a budget prospective we should not be relying on speed camera revenues.
- Mayor Grant explained the EB-5 card, which is a green card to allow the revenues to come into the country.
- Michelle Brown-Slaughter-6713 Adel St., Seat Pleasant, MD-Mrs. Slaughter thanked the Mayor and City Council for the effort in making the changes to the budget. She wanted to know why is it such a low amount going into the interest and investment account. It was stated that the amount is based upon the current interest rate.
- Bryan Walters-5946 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD-Mr. Walters stated that he lived in the City for seven years and what attracted him was the economic development or potential development. We must spend money to make money.
- Mayor Grant stated that the city subscribed to implant the software provides empirical data.
- stated that he feels that the Mayor should have a part-time assistant on a contractual basis to assist him with the administrative duties. This will allow him to not depend on the City Clerk or others to assist office of the Mayor.
- Mr. Wright stated that he noticed the Public Safety budget was reduced. Mayor Grant advised Mr. Wright that none of the department budgets were cut. Mr. Wright stated that he feels public safety is a priority in every city.
- Mrs. Barbara Kennedy stated that she did not have any comments to be added to the proposed budget hearing.

- Mr. Ashton stated that he feels that the upgrade of the police vehicles will increase the officer response time.
- Mayor Grant stated that the City Council allowed the Chief to fill the two-vacant officer position within the department. The City Council had enforced a spending moratorium and he was in support of the moratorium. The police department has a grant from the Department of Justice to pay for an officer position. However, the grant requires that the department is fully staffed.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1.1. Financial Literacy Workshop, Wednesday, April 19, 2017, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD at 6:00p.m.

4.1.2. City Council Budget Review, Saturday, April 22, 2017, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

4.1.3. Regular Work Session, Monday, May 1, 2017, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.

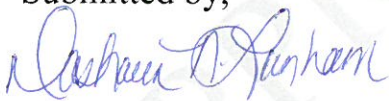
4.1.4. Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 6, 2017, Parade from Birchleaf Park at 11:00a.m., Seat Pleasant Elementary School Grounds Activities at 12:00p.m.

4.1.5. Public Session, Monday, May 8, 2017, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 7:00p.m.

Adjourn:

The Budget hearing adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk